

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for detecting navigation bars in a document,
2 the method comprising:
3 a) segmenting the document into components; and
4 b) for each of the components, determining whether or
5 not the component is anchor-heavy, wherein if the
6 component is anchor-heavy, it is determined to be a
7 navigation bar.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of determining
2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy is based on a
3 number of anchors in the component and a number of
4 non-anchor words in the component.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of determining
2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy includes
3 i) determining a number of anchors in the
4 component,
5 ii) determining a number of non-anchor words in
6 the component, and
7 iii) if the number of anchors is greater than a
8 predetermined threshold and if the number of
9 anchors is greater than the number of non-anchor
10 words, then determining that the component is
11 anchor-heavy.

1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the predetermined
2 threshold is about three.

1 5. The method of claim 3 wherein the predetermined
2 threshold is three.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of determining
 2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy includes
 3 i) determining a first count to be a number of
 4 anchors in the component,
 5 ii) determining a second count to be a number of
 6 non-anchor words in the component,
 7 iii) incrementing the second count by the number
 8 of words in an anchor having more words than a
 9 predetermined threshold to determine a non-anchor
 10 word count, and
 11 iv) if the first count is greater than a second
 12 predetermined threshold and if the first count is
 13 greater than the non-anchor word count, then
 14 determining that the component is anchor-heavy.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the predetermined
 2 threshold is about four.

1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein the predetermined
 2 threshold is four.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of segmenting the
 2 document into components includes generating a parse tree
 3 based on the document, wherein a first node corresponding
 4 to a first component is a child of a second node of a
 5 second component if the first component is included in the
 6 second component.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the act of determining
 2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy is based on
 3 (i) a number of anchors in a node corresponding to the

4 component and all descendant nodes of the node, and (ii) a
5 number of non-anchor words in the node corresponding to the
6 component and all the descendant nodes of the node.

1 11. The method of claim 9 wherein the act of determining
2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy includes

3 i) determining a number of anchors in a node
4 corresponding to the component and all descendant
5 nodes of the node,

6 ii) determining a number of non-anchor words in
7 the node corresponding to the component and all
8 the descendant nodes of the node, and

9 iii) if the number of anchors is greater than a
10 predetermined threshold and if the number of
11 anchors is greater than the number of non-anchor
12 words, then determining that the component is
13 anchor-heavy.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the predetermined
2 threshold is about three.

1 13. The method of claim 11 wherein the predetermined
2 threshold is three.

1 14. The method of claim 9 wherein the act of determining
2 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy includes

3 i) determining a first count to be a number of
4 anchors in a node corresponding to the component
5 and all descendant nodes of the node,

6 ii) determining a second count to be a number of
7 non-anchor words in a node corresponding to the
8 component and all descendant nodes of the node,

9 iii) incrementing the second count by the number
10 of words in an anchor having more words than a
11 predetermined threshold to determine a non-anchor
12 word count, and
13 iv) if the first count is greater than a second
14 predetermined threshold and if the first count is
15 greater than the non-anchor word count, then
16 determining that the component is anchor-heavy.

1 15. A method for detecting objectionable navigation bars
2 in a document, the method comprising:
3 a) segmenting the document into components;
4 b) for each of the components, determining whether or
5 not the component is a navigation bar; and
6 c) for each of the components that is determined to
7 be a navigation bar, determining whether or not the
8 navigation bar is disqualified from being classified
9 as an objectionable navigation bar.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the act of determining,
2 for each of the components, whether or not the component is
3 a navigation bar is based on a number of anchors in the
4 component and a number of non-anchor words in the
5 component.

1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein the act of determining
2 whether or not the component is a navigation bar includes
3 i) determining a number of anchors in the
4 component,
5 ii) determining a number of non-anchor words in
6 the component, and

7 iii) if the number of anchors is greater than a
8 predetermined threshold and if the number of
9 anchors is greater than the number of non-anchor
10 words, then determining that the component is a
11 navigation bar.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein the act, for each of
2 the components that is determined to be a navigation bar,
3 of determining whether or not the navigation bar is
4 disqualified from being classified as an objectionable
5 navigation bar includes determining whether a
6 disqualification condition, selected from a group of
7 disqualification conditions consisting of (a) if the
8 component has less than a predetermined number of anchors,
9 (b) if the component has more than a predetermined
10 percentage of words of the document, and (c) if the
11 component is an element of a disqualified component and
12 that disqualified component has only navigation bar
13 elements, exists.

1 19. The method of claim 16 wherein the act, for each of
2 the components that is determined to be a navigation bar,
3 of determining whether or not the navigation bar is
4 disqualified from being classified as an objectionable
5 navigation bar includes determining whether a
6 disqualification condition, selected from a group of
7 disqualification conditions consisting of (a) if the
8 component has less than a predetermined number of anchors,
9 (b) if the component has more than a predetermined
10 percentage of words of the document, and (c) if the
11 component is an element of a disqualified component and

12 that disqualified component has only navigation bar
13 elements, exists.

1 20. The method of claim 17 wherein the act, for each of
2 the components that is determined to be a navigation bar,
3 of determining whether or not the navigation bar is
4 disqualified from being classified as an objectionable
5 navigation bar includes determining whether a
6 disqualification condition, selected from a group of
7 disqualification conditions consisting of (a) if the
8 component has less than a predetermined number of anchors,
9 (b) if the component has more than a predetermined
10 percentage of words of the document, and (c) if the
11 component is an element of a disqualified component and
12 that disqualified component has only navigation bar
13 elements, exists.

1 21. A method for detecting objectionable navigation bars
2 in a document, the method comprising:
3 a) segmenting the document into components by
4 generating a parse tree based on the document, wherein
5 a first node corresponding to a first component is a
6 child of a second node of a second component if the
7 first component is included in the second component;
8 b) for each of the nodes of the parse tree,
9 determining whether or not the node corresponds to a
10 navigation bar component; and
11 c) for each of the nodes that is determined to
12 correspond to a navigation bar, determining whether or
13 not the navigation bar is disqualified from being
14 classified as an objectionable navigation bar.

1 22. The method of claim 21 wherein the act, for each of
 2 the nodes that is determined to correspond to a navigation
 3 bar, of determining whether or not the navigation bar is
 4 disqualified from being classified as an objectionable
 5 navigation bar includes determining whether a
 6 disqualification condition, selected from a group of
 7 disqualification conditions consisting of (a) if the
 8 component associated with the node has less than a
 9 predetermined number of anchors, (b) if the component
 10 associated with the node has more than a predetermined
 11 percentage of words of the document, and (c) if the node
 12 has a disqualified ancestor node and that all descendant
 13 nodes of the disqualified ancestor node are associated with
 14 navigation bar components, exists.

1 23. A machine-readable medium having machine executable
 2 instructions thereon, wherein when the machine executable
 3 instructions are executed on a machine, the machine:
 4 a) segments the document into components; and
 5 b) for each of the components, determines whether or
 6 not the component is anchor-heavy, wherein if the
 7 component is anchor-heavy, it is determined to be a
 8 navigation bar.

1 24. A machine-readable medium having machine executable
 2 instructions thereon, wherein when the machine executable
 3 instructions are executed on a machine, the machine:
 4 a) segments the document into components;
 5 b) for each of the components, determines whether or
 6 not the component is a navigation bar; and
 7 c) for each of the components that is determined to
 8 be a navigation bar, determines whether or not the

9 navigation bar is disqualified from being classified
10 as an objectionable navigation bar.

1 25. An apparatus for detecting navigation bars in a
2 document, the apparatus comprising:
3 a) means for segmenting the document into components;
4 and
5 b) means for determining, for each of the components,
6 whether or not the component is anchor-heavy, wherein
7 if the component is anchor-heavy, it is determined to
8 be a navigation bar.

1 26. An apparatus for detecting objectionable navigation
2 bars in a document, the apparatus comprising:
3 a) means for segmenting the document into components;
4 b) means for determining, for each of the components,
5 whether or not the component is a navigation bar; and
6 c) means for determining, for each of the components
7 that is determined to be a navigation bar, whether or
8 not the navigation bar is disqualified from being
9 classified as an objectionable navigation bar.